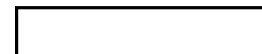
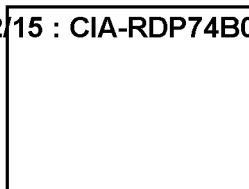
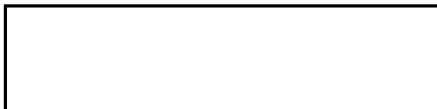


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NRO and DIA review(s) completed.

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28 January 1965

Copy 2

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. E. H. Knoche, Special Assistant to the DDCI

SUBJECT: Agency and DIA Message Traffic regarding
Pao Tou SAM Sites

1. As a follow-up to our telephone discussion of 26 January, and in fulfillment of your request that I send you a note on the message traffic having to do with release of the hard intelligence on the Pao Tou SAM sites, I should like to chronologically set forth the sequence as we have it here.

2. The first message on the subject was brought to me, in soft copy, by the OSA Signal Center Chief at 2328Z on 11 January. This message originated in NPIC and was addressed to DIRNSA; in accordance with what appears to be standard format it also contained the names of thirty-seven other addressees all over the world. For reference purposes this message was identified as NPIC 3648 (IN 66479). (Copy attached) It was classified TOP SECRET

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Just prior to its receipt in OSA I had been talking to [redacted] in NPIC who told me that it was coming. OSA Signal Center is the normal relay point for NPIC on all message traffic, since they do not have a direct link with the Agency Signal Center. Upon reading the message, I took issue with the fact that NPIC made the statement:

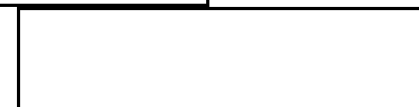
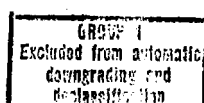
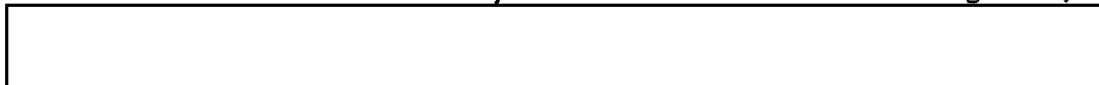
"The following surface-to-air (SAM) installations have been identified during a continuing study of photography indicated"

My quarrel with this language was that the identification of the sites resulted from a special request made of NPIC the afternoon of 10 January by OSA [redacted] I felt it was, therefore, inappropriate to give the impression to this large an audience that the discovery was the result of "continuing study"

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NGA Review Completed.

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3. I immediately got in touch with [] Special Assistant to DD/S&T, in Dr. Wheelon's absence to discuss the point noted above, and he agreed that there should be an attempt made to stop the transmission of this message and to rework the portion which we found objectionable. On checking back with the OSA Signal Center after talking to [] I learned that the text of the message had already been sent to AFSSO and DIRNSA, but not to the balance of the addressees. A supervisor's message (copy attached) was sent immediately, telling them to hold further dissemination until further notice, which was done. However, since the readout of the film was conducted in the Joint Area (DIA/CIA) at NPIC, we were somewhat conscious of the fact that in all probability DIA was aware of the substantive facts in the matter. On informing [] that we were holding the message and receiving NPIC's concurrence on this, I assumed that this notification would constitute an awareness of suspension on the part not only of Agency personnel at NPIC but also those DIA people serving in the Center.

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4. The following day, 12 January, Dr. Wheelon, after conversing with Col. Ledford, drafted a proposed variation of NPIC 3648 which substituted in the preambulatory portion the following statement:

"The following surface-to-air (SAM) installations have been identified during a special detailed analysis of photography initiated []"

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In addition, Dr. Wheelon's draft contained a notification of the heading "Special Warning" that "The contents of this message are not to be passed to other than U. S. Nationals." The caveat "NOFORN" was added to the classification line as well. The afternoon of 12 January I handcarried the revised draft to the DD/I, and he concurred. Following this I dropped the message off at General Carter's for concurrence although he was not there at the time. However, subsequently the DDCI did concur, and the revised message text with the additional caveats was released by me late in the afternoon of Tuesday, 12 January (actual receipt in AFSSO was 12/2357Z). I might add that the OSA Signal Center requested a repeat of the changes from AFSSO to ensure that they understood the revisions.

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5. The exact chronology of the events surrounding the release of the DIA message of the same subject on the evening of the 13th of January is not clear to me since the receipt time of 14/0132Z was after normal working hours on that day, and the following day the General and his party, including the undersigned, were in a travel status. However, the DIA message (copy attached) was received in this Headquarters as I have said after working hours on the 13th, the action officer was the TCO/DDI. Its contents were first questioned by OSA the early afternoon of the 14th following which, as you know, Dr. Wheelon advised General Carter of its existence in a Priority Top Secret, Eyes Only cable [redacted] (copy attached, see para. 6). Parenthetically I should add that the DIA message received normal distribution, as you will note on the attached copy, but the last sentence was not noticed apparently by the other TCO recipients in the Agency. I am further told that the SAM Order-of-Battle inputs of this sort are submitted normally by DIA in this fashion so that the proper retargeting can take place in the TDI Change Bulletin. I am further advised that the TDI Change Bulletin is issued at the SECRET level, "NOFORN" [redacted] as a routine matter of course.

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6. Coincident with advising General Carter of the existence of the DIA message, I gather that Dr. Wheelon got in touch with General Fitch of DIA and asked him to send a second message suspending action on the first until further notice. This was dated 14/2233Z, or approximately 21 hours after the transmission of the first DIA advisory. It would be then in this period that any leakage of the existence of the SAM sites might have occurred. A copy of the second message is also attached for your information.

7. The DIA Production Center was an addressee of the revised, basic NPIC 3648 message which should have been in their hands the evening of 12 January. Apparently, however, they did not pay attention to the caveats in the revision indicating complete NOFORN treatment for the contents. Enough time elapsed between the receipt of the revised NPIC 3648 and the dispatch of the DIA message to have permitted the inclusion in it of the CIA-inspired caveats.

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8. My prime purpose in bringing all of this to your attention in such detail is to suggest that there may have been a period on the 14th of January when the basic target information was bouncing around at the military SECRET level exposed to other than U. S. eyes, without adequate protection. Since I gathered from General Carter's comments to Dr. Wheelon [redacted] on the 14th that he did not know of the temporary release of the substance of the DIA message from the T-KH system that you should be made aware of this fact.



JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

Enclosures



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TAB



25X1

11/2313Z JAN
P 112308Z
FM NPIC
TO DIRNSA

25X1

66479 ILLEGIB

25X1 P/S E C R E T CITE NPIC 5648.
25X1 ILLEGIB

THE FOLLOWING SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) INSTALLATIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED DURING A CONTINUING STUDY OF PHOTOGRAPHY INDICATED.

1. A COMPLETED SA-2 SAM SITE IS LOCATED 43.8 NM EAST OF PAO-TOU CHINA AT 40-35-38N 110-59-00E, PLOTTED ON USATC SERIES 280, SHEET 0280-23AL, 1ST ED., MARCH 1968.

THE SITE CONSISTS OF ONE POSSIBLY OCCUPIED LAUNCH POSITION, ONE PROBABLE LAUNCH POSITION, TWO POSSIBLE LAUNCH POSITIONS, AND A CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA, NONE OF WHICH ARE REVETTED. THE SITE CAN FIRST BE IDENTIFIED ON

25X1

PHOTOGRAPHY:

25X1

25X1

2. A COMPLETED SA-2 SAM SITE IS LOCATED 26 NM SE OF PAO-TOU, CHINA AT 40-23-10N 110-30-50E. PLOTTED ON USATC SERIES 280 SHEET 280-23AL, 1ST ED., MARCH 1968.

THE SITE CONSISTS OF 6 LAUNCH POSITIONS, 5 OF WHICH ARE REVETTED AND THE OTHER IS POSSIBLY REVETTED, OCCUPANCY CANNOT BE DETERMINED. THE CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA IS UNRETTED. THE SITE CAN BE FIRST IDENTIFIED ON

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PHOTOGRAPHY:

GP-1,

477

TEXT HAS GONE TO AFSSA & DIRNSA; A SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE SENT IMMEDIATELY TELLING THEM TO HOLD VICTORY ATTACHED)

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NNNN REASON HANDLED BY USA/SICENTRAL IS THAT THERE

25X1 HAS NO DIRECT LINKS WITH AGENCY SIGCENT

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25X1 TOP SECRET NO FORN [REDACTED]

SPECIAL WARNING: THE CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE ARE NOT TO BE PASSED TO OTHER THAN U.S. NATIONALS.

25X1 THE FOLLOWING SURFACE-TO-AIR (SAM) INSTALLATIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED DURING A SPECIAL DETAILED ANALYSIS OF PHOTOGRAPHY INITIATED ON [REDACTED]

1. A COMPLETED SA-2 SAM SITE IS LOCATED 43.8 NM EAST OF PAO-TOU CHINA AT 40-35-30N 110-59-00E, PLOTTED ON USATC SERIES 200, SHEET 0288-23AL, 1ST ED., MARCH 1960.

25X1 THE SITE CONSISTS OF ONE POSSIBLY OCCUPIED LAUNCH POSITION, ONE PROBABLE LAUNCH POSITION, TWO POSSIBLE LAUNCH POSITIONS, AND A CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA, NONE OF WHICH ARE REVETTED. THE SITE CAN FIRST BE IDENTIFIED ON [REDACTED]

25X1 PHOTOGRAPHY:

25X1 PRECLUDE IDENTIFICATION.

25X1 2. A COMPLETED SA-2 SAM SITE IS LOCATED 26 NM SE OF PAO-TOU, CHINA AT 40-23-10N 110-30-50E. PLOTTED ON USATC SERIES 200 SHEET 288-23AL, 1 ST ED., MARCH 1960.

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- 2 -

THE SITE CONSISTS OF 6 LAUNCH POSITIONS, 5 OF WHICH ARE REVETTED
AND THE OTHER IS POSSIBLY REVETTED, OCCUPANCY CANNOT BE DETERMINED.
THE CENTRAL GUIDANCE AREA IS UNRETTED. THE SITE CAN BE FIRST
IDENTIFIED ON

25X1

PHOTOGRAPHY:



CONCUR:

DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTELLIGENCE

DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

APPROVED:

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE